



The Iowa Advisory Council on Automated Transportation is intended to increase roadway safety, personal mobility, and freight movement within the state of Iowa by advancing highly automated vehicle technologies. The Council provides guidance, recommendations, and strategic oversight of automated transportation activities in the state. The structure of the ATC Press Clippings is done to align with the subcommittees and working groups that exist for the Council while aiming to keep the Council and other interested parties informed.

Articles and upcoming events

July 7, 2025

1.1. Infrastructure Readiness

[Beep Begins Operating NAVI: Nation's First Fully Autonomous Public Transit System](#) – Beep

Beep launched NAVI, the first fully autonomous public transit system in the U.S., in Jacksonville, Florida. It uses electric, ADA-compliant shuttles on a 3.5-mile downtown route, managed by Beep's AutonomOS™ platform, and is part of the city's U2C modernization project.

['Event-based' data could enhance traffic management efforts and road safety](#) – Route Fifty

Researchers at Arizona State University have developed eTraM, a new traffic monitoring system that uses event-based data like near misses, lighting, and weather conditions to improve road safety and traffic management without capturing images, preserving privacy.

[Seeing the Unseen: How intelligent maps are powering the future of driving](#) – Highways News

Intelligent maps are combining real-time sensor data with dynamic mapping to enhance safety and navigation. According to HERE Technologies' Remco Timmer, these maps can alert drivers to unseen hazards, suggest safe overtaking spots, and even indicate when hands-free driving is safe. This integration supports both assisted and autonomous driving.

[Waymo launches AV ride-hail in Atlanta with Uber](#) – ITS International

Waymo has launched its autonomous ride-hailing service in Atlanta via the Uber app, covering a 65-square-mile area of the city. Riders requesting UberX, Comfort, or Comfort Electric may be matched with a fully autonomous, electric Jaguar I-Pace at no extra cost.

[Fusion Processing launches Cambridge's first automated bus service](#) – ADAS & Autonomous Vehicle International

Fusion Processing has launched Cambridge's first autonomous bus service using electric vehicles equipped with its CAVStar system. The trial connects key city areas and includes a safety driver, aiming to improve access and test real-world autonomous transport.

[Connected Vehicle Research Boosts Michigan Tech's \\$7M Role in CAV Testing](#) – Medium

Michigan Tech has secured \$7 million to advance its role in connected and autonomous vehicle (CAV) testing. The funding supports research into vehicle communication systems, safety technologies, and real-world testing infrastructure, positioning the university as a key player in CAV innovation.

1.2. Policy & Legislation

[Texas Passes New Law Requiring Permits for All Self-Driving Cars Starting September](#) – Tech Times

Texas has passed [SB 2807](#), a new law requiring all self-driving vehicles to obtain permits from the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles starting September 1, 2025. Companies must prove their vehicles can safely operate on public roads and handle emergencies. The DMV can revoke or suspend permits if safety standards aren't met.

[Automated Vehicle Policy Framework](#) – ITS America Automated Vehicle Committee
The Intelligent Transportation Society of America has released an updated Automated Vehicle Policy Framework which pushes for strong federal leadership to ensure the safe deployment of autonomous vehicles.

[Report to Congress: NHTSA Research and Rulemaking Activities on Vehicles Equipped with Automated Driving Systems](#) – National Highway Transportation Safety Administration

The July 2025 NHTSA report to Congress highlights progress in making automated driving systems safer. The agency is studying crash prevention, updating safety rules for vehicles without steering wheels or pedals, and analyzing crash data. It's also working with partners to align safety standards and build public trust through better communication and education.

[UK transport and tech leaders urge government to set crucial deadline for AV technology](#) – Highways News

A coalition of UK transport and tech leaders has urged the government to set a clear deadline for deploying AV technology, specifically calling for the nationwide rollout of Digital Traffic Regulation Orders.

1.3. Economic Development

[Michigan Fund Awards \\$3M for Driverless Truck Engineering Hub](#) – Government Technology

The Michigan Strategic Fund awarded \$3 million to Torc to build a driverless truck engineering hub in Ann Arbor Township, aiming to create 500 high-paying tech jobs and advance autonomous freight technology.

[VW recently partnered with Uber to launch a fleet of autonomous ID. Buzz robotaxis in this US city in 2026.](#) – Autoweek

Volkswagen has unveiled its ID. Buzz AD autonomous van, built to SAE Level 4 standards. It's a ready-made solution for ride-hailing and fleet operators, with AI-driven fleet tools and remote monitoring. Uber will launch the first U.S. fleet in Los Angeles in 2026.

[Kodiak Robotics Teams Up With Remote Driving Specialist Vay](#) – Transport Topics

Kodiak Robotics is partnering with Vay to integrate remote human driving into its autonomous trucking system. Vay's tech will let remote operators handle tricky low-speed maneuvers, like yard entries, while Kodiak's system manages highway driving—aiming to scale autonomous freight operations by 2027.

[Tesla makes first driverless delivery of Model Y to customer's home](#) – CNBC TV 18

Tesla made its first fully driverless delivery, with a Model Y driving itself from the Texas Gigafactory to a customer's home. The 30-minute trip handled highways, city streets, and parking lots, without any driver or remote help, and reached speeds up to 72 mph. It follows the launch of Tesla's robotaxi pilot in Austin.

1.4. Public Safety & Enforcement

[NHTSA Probes Tesla After Robotaxi Launch Reveals Safety Issues](#) – IOT World Today

The NHTSA is investigating Tesla after its robotaxi launch in Austin showed safety concerns. Videos revealed unsafe driving behavior like swerving, hard braking, and

speeding without driver input. Though safety monitors were present, the incidents raised regulatory alarms.

[Ford recalling over 200,000 vehicles due to rearview camera issue](#) – The Hill

Ford is recalling over 200,000 vehicles due to a rearview camera software defect that can cause the screen to go blank or stay on after reversing, both of which pose safety risks. The recall affects various Ford and Lincoln models from 2018 to 2024. Owners will receive free software updates, with notification letters expected by July 28.

[Colorado to Launch Automated Speed Enforcement in Work Zones](#) – Roads & Bridges

Colorado is launching an automated speed enforcement program in highway work zones. The initiative will use radar-equipped camera systems to detect and ticket speeding vehicles in active construction areas. The goal is to improve safety for both workers and drivers by reducing speeding, which is a leading cause of work zone crashes. The program is expected to roll out later in 2025.

[Driver Blames FSD After Tesla Drives Onto Tracks And Gets Hit By A Train](#) – Car Scoops

A Tesla Model 3 was struck by a train in Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania, on June 14, 2025, after reportedly driving onto active train tracks while in Full Self-Driving (FSD) mode. The driver claimed the vehicle mistook the tracks for a road and followed them for 40–50 feet before being clipped by a passing train. Fortunately, all occupants exited safely before the collision.

[Tesla robotaxi incidents spark confusion and concerns in Austin](#) – NBC News

Tesla's recent robotaxi rollout in Austin has sparked safety concerns after videos showed the vehicles behaving unpredictably such as stopping in intersections and speeding. Though the cars operate autonomously, a Tesla employee rides in the passenger seat. Due to Texas' regulations, Tesla isn't obligated to share safety data, and the company has yet to address the incidents publicly.

1.5. Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation

[Researchers test new airport tarmac technology](#) – NBC News

Researchers at Atlantic City International Airport in New Jersey have tested three AVs designed to handle key airport tarmac tasks. These vehicles could soon be deployed at airports nationwide, pending FAA approval. The goal is to improve efficiency and safety in ground operations using automation.

[How can teen driver education be enhanced with ADAS training: Stakeholder perspectives](#) – Journal of Safety Research, Vol 94, September 2025, 80-192.

A study of Massachusetts driver education programs found major gaps in preparing teens to use Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS). While views on ADAS were mostly neutral to positive, concerns included over-reliance by teens and inconsistent training. Researchers recommend better instructor training, more parental involvement, and integrating ADAS education into the curriculum to improve teen driver safety.

[Advancing Vision Zero: Waymo's Research on Speed and Seatbelt Safety](#)

[Impact](#) – Waymo

Waymo's July 2025 blog post, "Advancing Vision Zero," highlights new research aimed at reducing traffic fatalities and serious injuries through two key areas: [speed limit compliance](#) and [seat belt compliance](#).

[Self-driving cars go for a spin Memphis](#) – WREG Channel 3 News Memphis

Nuro's self-driving vehicles are in Memphis as part of a 40-city data collection tour. Operated manually by trained drivers, the cars gather sensor data to improve Nuro's autonomous driving system. The focus is on refining technology and not offering rides or deliveries.

[Torc joins Stanford to make autonomous trucks safer](#) – Fleet Owner

Torc is working with Stanford to make self-driving trucks safer by improving how their AI handles uncertainty. They're focusing on two main tools: one that helps the AI recognize unfamiliar situations, and another that tests how it performs when sensors are affected by things like fog or dust. This work supports Torc's plan to launch autonomous trucks by 2027.

[GM's Cruise Cars Are Back on the Road in Three US States—But Not for Ride-Hailing](#) – Wired

GM has restarted limited testing of its former Cruise robotaxis in Michigan, Texas, and the Bay Area. This testing is not for ride-hailing, but to develop driver-assistance features like Super Cruise. The vehicles, now driven by humans and stripped of Cruise branding, are helping GM refine AI systems.

1.6. Upcoming Events

[Infrastructure Investments and AVs: A First Look at NCHRP 20-102\(24\)](#)

Partnership For Automated Vehicle Education (PAVE)

Wednesday, July 22

12:00 p.m.

Presenters:

Ashley Nylen – USDOT

Britton Johnson – Kimley-Horn

Samantha Anderson – Kimley-Horn